

APA (American Psychological Association) Format – Print Sources

The purpose of citing sources is to give credit to the author and to enable a reader to find the material cited.

The library has created this guide to provide our students with examples for citing different types of sources. Students are encouraged to consult the official version of this citation style as published by the APA.
Always check with your instructor regarding any citation question!

Examples are based on those provided in the **Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association, 5th edition**, available at the library (**REF BF 76.7 P83 2001**). To help explain examples, quotes from the 5th edition are included, followed by the page numbers where the quotes appear.

Section I: Reference List

A reference list, labeled **References** in your paper, provides an alphabetical list of all sources you have used and cited in your text. “References cited in text must appear in the reference list; conversely, each entry in the reference list must be cited in text” (p. 215).

- Use italics for titles of books, periodicals, and microform publications.
- “Capitalize only the first word of the title and of the subtitle, if any, and any proper names. ... Give the periodical title in full, in upper and lower case letters” (pp. 226-227).
- Indent one-half inch or 5 spaces *after* the first line of each entry.
- Double space between lines and between entries.

BOOK (single author)

Thiessen, D. D. (1996). *Bittersweet destiny: The stormy evolution of human behavior*. New Brunswick, NJ: Transaction.

BOOK WITH EDITORS (edition indicated)

Eisen, G., & Wiggins, D. K. (Eds.). (1994). *Ethnicity and sport in North American history and culture*. (Rev. ed.). Westport, CT: Greenwood Press.

CHAPTER IN A BOOK (book editor with different authors for each chapter)

Harvey, S. (1998). Women’s place: The absent family of film noir. In E. A. Kaplan (Ed.), *Women in film noir* (pp. 35-36). London: British Film Institute.

ENCYCLOPEDIA ENTRY

Rosenberg, R. S. (2000). Sleep disorders. In *The encyclopedia of psychology* (Vol. 2, pp. 304-309). Washington, DC: American Psychological Association.

ARTICLE – SCHOLARLY JOURNAL (up to six authors)

Robins, R. W., Gosling, S. D., & Craik, K. H. (1999). An empirical analysis of trends in psychology. *American Psychologist*, *54*, 117-128.

ARTICLE – SCHOLARLY JOURNAL (more than six authors) - “After the sixth author’s name and initial, use et al. to indicate the remaining authors of the article” (p. 241).

Russell, W., Pritschet, B., Frost, B., Emmett, J., Pelley, T. J., Black, J., et al. (2003). A comparison of post-exercise mood enhancement across common exercise distraction activities. *Journal of Sport Behavior*, *26*, 368-383.

ARTICLE - SCHOLARLY JOURNAL (page numbers start over with each issue)

Garl, T. C., Alexander, L., & Bomba, B. J., Sr. (1997). Treatment dilemmas and complications. *The Physician and Sportsmedicine*, 25(6), 41-45.

ARTICLE - POPULAR WEEKLY OR MONTHLY MAGAZINE - Issue number is not necessary (p. 227).

Brower, B. (1998, August 8). Teens put cultured spin on friendship. *Science News*, 154, 84-85.

The rest of the story. (1997, January/February). *Sierra*, 82, 16.

NEWSPAPER ARTICLE

Brooke, J. (1997, March 24). Hispanic farmers try to stop a timber baron. *The New York Times*, pp. A10-12, A14.

VIDEO RECORDING - Give the name and the function of the originator and primary contributors. Identify the type of work. In APA, 5th ed., [Motion Picture] replaces [Videotape].

Bradshaw, J. (Creator), Porro, L. (Producer), & McGuire, D. L. (Director). (1990). *Bradshaw on homecoming*. [Motion Picture]. Houston, TX: Bradshaw Cassettes.

ERIC REPORT

McCarthy, S. J. (1993). *Can images of good writing conflict with goals of process writing?* (Report No. NCRTL-RR-934). East Lansing, MI: National Center for Research on Teacher Learning. (ERIC Document Reproduction Service No. ED 377166)

Section II: Reference Citations in Text (See APA, 5th ed., Sec. 3.94, p. 207, for additional examples.)

- Every time you quote, paraphrase or summarize from a source, use reference citations in text.
- “The surname of the author and the year of publication are inserted in the text at the appropriate point” (p. 207).
- “When a work has two authors, always cite both names every time the reference occurs in text. When a work has three, four, or five authors, cite all authors the first time the reference occurs; in subsequent citations, include only the surname of the first author followed by *et al.* and the year if it is the first citation of the reference within a paragraph” (p. 208).
- Provide the page number only when you quote; otherwise your citation should include the author and publication year. The citation should appear immediately after the quote.

AUTHOR NAMED IN THE SENTENCE (first example *without* quote, second example *with* quote)

The American Ski Association (1996) reported that over 10 million Americans went skiing in 1995.

In contrast, Bemis (1989) states that leaders “can’t teach character of vision” (p. 12).

AUTHOR NOT NAMED IN THE SENTENCE (with quote)

One study stated that “exploration of the world of work should start early” (Shoffner & Newsome, 2001, p. 25).

PERSONAL COMMUNICATION - “Personal communications may be letters, some electronic communications ... personal interviews, telephone conversations, and the like. Because they do not provide recoverable data, personal communications are not included in the reference list. Cite personal communications in text only” (p. 214).

Author named in sentence: Dr. Jane Smith (personal communication, July 24, 2001) explained during the interview ...

Author NOT named in sentence: During a recent discussion (J. R. Smith, personal communication, July 24, 2001), ...

UNKNOWN AUTHOR (without quote) - “When a work has no author, cite in text the first few words of the entry (usually the title) and the year. Use double quotation marks around the title of an article or chapter” (p. 210).

The placement of women in print advertisements is subliminally important (“Today’s Marketplace,” 2000).